



California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs, Inc.

Over 50 years advocating for recreation

California Department of Parks and Recreation
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

E-mail: ohvinfo@parks.ca.gov

Cc: Sierra National Forest
Dean Gould, Forest Supervisor dagould@fs.fed.us
Susan Burkindine, Project Administrator sburkindine@fs.fed.us

March 31, 2013

Re: USFS - Sierra National Forest Grant Application Reference # G12-02-17-G01

Dear Grant Committee:

These comments are submitted on behalf of the California Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs (CA4WDC) and its membership. CA4WDC represents clubs and individuals within the State of California that are part of the community of four-wheel drive enthusiasts. Many of our members and supporters live in and/or recreate in the area covered by the *Sierra National Forest Grant Application # G12-02-17-G01*. This document shall not supplant the rights of other CA4WDC agents and organizational or individual members from submitting their own comments and the agency should consider and appropriately respond to all comments received to this proposed grant.

While the main focus of CA4WDC is to protect, promote, and provide for motorized recreation opportunities on public and private lands, many of our members participate in multiple forms of recreation; including but not limited to hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, horseback riding, bicycle riding, and gem and mineral collection.

We recognize the positive health and social benefits that can be achieved through outdoor activities. We also recognize that motorized recreation provides the small business owners in the local communities a significant financial stimulus. And, our members are directly affected by management decisions concerning public land use.

Our members subscribe to the concepts of: 1) public access to public lands for their children and grandchildren; 2) condition and safety of the environment; and 3) sharing our natural heritage. The general public desires access to public lands now and for future generations.

This Project is focused entirely on improving the public's OHV recreational experience on the Sierra NF. Project funding will allow USFS personnel, alongside volunteers and partners to maintain, support and enhance OHV routes and facilities. Adverse natural and cultural resource impacts will be prevented and minimized, provision for public health and



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safety will be enhanced, and the capacity of USFS personnel to undertake ground operations projects in the future will be improved. The activities included in this project are necessary to sustain the long-term use of the Sierra NF by OHV enthusiasts.

Many CA4WDC members and member clubs are involved in the activities covered by this grant request as volunteers. Our volunteers help with:

- Surveying and Monitoring
- Road Maintenance
- Trail Maintenance
- Mitigation Measures
- Facility Maintenance
- Sign Installation

CA4WDC supports the Sierra National Forests efforts in ground operations to maintain and enhance the OHV opportunities and bring newly designated roads, motorized trails, and areas up to Forest Service (USFS) standard as quickly as possible in order to provide the public with the best possible recreational OHV experience.

For these reasons CA4WDC would like to ask that this grant be funded to enhance the recreational experience in this popular area.

CA4WDC appreciates the opportunity to comment on this grant request made by the Sierra National Forest. CA4WDC is eager to assist land managers and we hope these comments have been helpful in the importance of this grant to our members and member clubs. If addition information is required please do not hesitate to contact Steve Egbert at (559) 936-3030.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Egbert".

Steve Egbert
President, CA4WDC